

## Percy wants stress on priorities

(Monragala special correspondent)

Mr. Percy Samarawera, Chief Minister, Uva Provincial Council has taken to task officials who have shown more interest in construction and repair work in his area, in respect of government buildings, in preference to providing the basic necessities such as providing a cart to carry dead bodies from hospitals.

In one instance, he pointed out that a residential building had been repaired at a cost of nearly one lakh of rupees, although a cart to carry the dead had not been repaired and some dead bodies had to be transported in a scavenging cart.

Housing and Construction Minister Sri Sena Cooray, State Minister for Information A. J. Ransinghe, State Minister for Industries Weerasinghe Mallimarachchi and T. M. S. Nagadasa, MMC.

President P. Premadasa paying his respects to the late Ven. Kotikawatte Saddhatissa, Chief Sanganyake Thera of Kolamba Nawakorile and Nawa Thotamuna at the Kolomb- Rajamah Vihara on Sunday. Also in the picture are



Prime Minister D. B. Wijetunge paid his last respects to the Ven. Kotikawatte Saddhatissa Sanganyake Thera at the Kolombawa purana raja maha vihara on Sunday. Among others who paid their last respects was the Speaker Mr. M. H. Mohamed.

Here the Prime Minister and Mr. Mohamed in conversation with AGP Lalith Gunasekera who is handling the investigations into the killing of the late Thera. Also in the picture is Mr. Weerasinghe Mallimarachchi, State Minister for Industries. (Picture by Kolonnawa correspondent).

## Gorbachev donates book royalties

## Training for Gannaha

## Monthly

## ayurveda

The 18th Mangali Nikini Dharmadasa at the Foster Robinson Free Ayurveda Salawa founded by Srimala Anagarika Dharmapala, at the Jathikapola Primitiv will be delivered by the Ven. Sancharaka Buddhadasa. Sanjivani Pathy, Pujya Borella Athula, wishing to participate in the future should fill over at

## Robinson

rice and Education and that the small 25-

# Record harvest from pilot sericulture project

(Kandy staff correspondent Kularatne Bulathgama)

It has been found that the introduction of sericulture is ideally suited as a soil conservation method under the upper Mahaweli Catchment Development program.

The pilot sericulture project, started with the settlers at Doragala in Kotmale, the assistance of the West German GTZ program and SAPDA (Sericulture Allied Production Development Authority) reaped a record harvest. A record harvest of 43 kilos of cocoons has been obtained from one box of silkworm eggs (20,000 eggs) or 100 DFL (Disease-free layings).

In Sri Lanka, the previous highest so far received

was about 40 to 41. It is said that India has received 42 kilos under tropical sericulture conditions and if sericulture is developed in Sri Lanka, particularly under the Janasaviya program, it could provide income to thousands of villagers as there is a great demand for the world over for silk. It is also said that there is a \$20 billion shortage of natural silks in the world trade.

The Kotmale Sericulture program was initiated as an income-generating program for settlers under settler conditions and these results were achieved on high gradient land under effective erosion control measures.

## Kegalle schools to be improved

(Malwa correspondent)

The Sweden Internal Development Institute will set up an education resource centre at Atulugama, Dehiowita, in the Kegalle sector of the Sabaragamuwa Provincial Council to develop underdeveloped schools in the district.

The project, estimated to cost Rs. 50 lakhs, when completed will provide training facilities for teachers in schools in difficult areas around Dehiowita and Ruwanvela.

## Trilingual word processor developed at IFS

(Senkadagala special correspondent)

A tri-lingual word processor which enables the simultaneous use of Sinhala, Tamil and English in the same document, has been developed at the Computer Unit of the IFS, Kandy. Two diskettes containing this software program were presented to the Director IFS, Prof. Cyril Ponnamparuma by Sampath Godamunne and Rohan Manamudali, the two young scientists who developed it.

Two other young men, Dhammika Wijetunge and Vipula Jayampathi had also been in this team of four past pupils of Harischandra vidyalaya Megamawwa, who first developed a bilingual (Sinhala-English) word processor (at "Super Bits", Negombo). In spite of the tremendous amount of work they had put into it, their intention was to distribute it free. They had presented it to institutions such as the Arthur C. Clarke Centre and the Peradeniya University before offering it to the IFS, this time.

There, however, Prof. Ponnamparuma had posed a further challenge to them. Giving them the free use of the facilities at the IFS, he asked them to develop this computer package still further into a trilingual one, including Tamil this too, they had managed to

achieve in the short period of eight weeks. This package is unlike other Sinhala or Tamil word processors so far developed. It is truly trilingual, (change from one language to another at the touch of a button). One can use the normal English keyboard for all three languages. The assignment of Sinhala and Tamil characters is not difficult to remember. If one is used to the Wijesekara keyboard, one can get it also, just by running a program that is provided. Provision has even been made to design your own keyboard layout, if necessary.

This amazing package is not hitched to a single brand of computer. The designers claim that it could be used in any computer using the MS-DOS or PC-DOS operating systems with at least 256K RAM (Read Only Memory) and a graphics card. This would make it usable on the commonest type of computers today - the IBM and its numerous low-priced 'clones' now on the market.

Professor Ponnamparuma said that he planned to make this package available in due course, to all government departments, as requested by the Board of Governors of the IFS.

## Fish prices down

(Bentola correspondent)

Prices of fish have come down here so that 500 grammes of popular fish as balaya, kelawalla and para are now sold at prices around Rs. 10. Earlier these fish were sold at prices around Rs. 40.

A glut of balaya fish in the market has compelled the people to buy them abundantly and preserve them for a 'rainy day'.

Excess fish can be used to make 'jidi' and 'karawala' (both suited fish) while it can also be used in making 'Maldive fish'.

Maldive fish is an ingredient essential to make 'polsambal' for which Bentola is very famous. Now people make the 'polsambal' without Maldive fish as it is very expensive.

## Performing workshop

Jeremy Polnear and Diana Ambache, the obnoxious duo who are